

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 02900 291949Z  
ACTION HEW-06

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 OES-06 MED-03 IO-13 /039 W  
-----291951Z 032680 /46

P 291813Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 720

UNCLAS BOGOTA 2900

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: TBIO, CO  
SUBJ: LAETRILE (AMYGDALIN)

REF: STATE 049069

1. LAETRILE (AMYGDALIN) APPEARS TO BE UNKNOWN IN COLOMBIA AND IS NOT PROMOTED AS A CURE FOR CANCER, NOR IS IT PROMOTED FOR OTHER USES.

2. PRIOR TO 1975, NO FORMAL PROCEDURE FOR THE CONSIDERATION OR EVALUATION OF INDIVIDUAL DRUGS EXISTED. THE DECISION TO PRODUCE OR MARKET A DRUG HAD BEEN LEFT TO THE INDIVIDUAL MANUFACTURER AND DISTRIBUTER, MANY OF WHOM HAD USED THE FDA FINDINGS AND REPORTS AS GUIDELINES.

3. IN 1975, THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURE WAS ESTABLISHED FOR APPROVING OR PROHIBITING THE MANUFACTURE AND MARKETING OF DRUGS IN COLOMBIA. A COMMITTEE OF 15, WHOSE MEMBERS ARE TAKEN FROM BOTH THE GOVERNMENT AND PRIVATE SECTORS, MEETS ONCE A MONTH TO REVIEW NEW AND EXISTING DRUGS. AS NO SAFETY OR EFFICACY EVALUATIONS OR EXPERIMENTS ARE CONDUCTED IN COLOMBIA, THE COMMITTEE DRAWS UPON THE INFORMATION PUBLISHED BY THE U.S. FDA AND THE AMA, AND FROM COMPARABLE LITERATURE ORIGINATING IN ENGLAND, FRANCE, AND OTHER WESTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, IN COMING TO A DECISION.

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4. WHEN CONFLICTING REPORTS EXIST AND AN APPROVAL OR PROHIBITION IS NOT CLEARLY INDICATED, THE RELIABILITY OF THE SOURCES OF THE TEST FINDINGS IS TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION. IN ADDITION, THE EFFICACY OF THE DRUG IS WEIGHED AGAINST THE POSSIBLE RISKS RESULTING FROM ITS USE, AND THE AVAILABILITY OF SUITABLE SUBSTITUTES IS CONSIDERED. WHEN ALL THE EVIDENCE HAS BEEN PRESENTED AND DISCUSSED, A FINDING IS MADE

BASED UPON A MAJORITY VOTE. THE COMMITTEE'S FINDINGS ARE TO  
BE PUBLISHED PERIODICALLY AND MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.  
IF A DRUG IS BANNED BY THE COMMITTEE, IT CANNOT BE PROCE-  
SSED, MARKETED, OR IMPORTED INTO COLOMBIA.  
SANCHEZ

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DRUG CONTROL  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 6550a1b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION HEW  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 49069  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2970130  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LAETRILE (AMYGDALIN)  
**TAGS:** TBIO, CO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
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